



What opportunities are available to Physics Majors?

The Department of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Kentucky offers several scholarships per year to undergraduate students majoring or considering a major in physics. Awards are based primarily on merit. All prospective and current UK students with interests in Physics or Astronomy are encouraged to apply. Applications are due in March and are available at <https://pa.as.uky.edu/pa-scholarships>.

Physics Majors are also eligible for part-time, paid **Learning Assistantships** within the Department. Learning Assistants working up to ten hours per week will help with instructional development, tutoring, and facilitating cooperative learning activities in lectures. It's an excellent way to become involved in other aspects of the Physics Department besides your courses, and to enhance your own learning experience.

All Physics Majors are strongly encouraged to participate in a **research project** as part of their undergraduate experience. In addition to gaining practical research skills that are highly valued by employers and graduate schools, students receive course credit and are often paid for their efforts.

Why should I major in Physics at the University of Kentucky?

As a Physics Major, you will develop a set of universally applicable problem-solving skills and gain a scientific perspective on the world around you. While you learn about how the universe works, you will also be learning how to formulate scientific questions and develop quantitative approaches to answering them.

The scientific skills you gain as a Physics Major can provide a foundation for **many careers**, in fields such as applied physics, medical science, and information technology. These skills are highly valued even in non-science fields such as law and business.

UK's Department of Physics and Astronomy offers Physics Majors all the resources of an **internationally recognized faculty** combined with the advantages of a small, select program. Because of our **low student/faculty ratio**, Physics Majors receive an exceptional degree of personal attention from their professors, in small classes covering all major branches of Physics and Astronomy.

What types of Physics degrees are available?

The UK Physics curriculum is comprehensive and flexible enough to accommodate a wide range of career and educational interests, including preparation for medical school, engineering graduate school, work in computer science or information technology, and further study in physics or astronomy.

Corresponding to the diverse interests and goals of our students, there are many paths through the Physics curriculum. The **BS** degree is geared toward students interested in pursuing **graduate study** in Physics, Astronomy, or related fields. Our **BA** degree has fewer course requirements and can accommodate **double majors, pre-engineers, and pre-meds**. Students interested in astronomy may obtain a degree with a **Concentration in Astronomy**. The **Physics Minor** is an option for those wishing to explore physics beyond the introductory level.

If you would like to learn more about the options available to you as a Physics Major or Minor, we will be happy to arrange for you to talk to a Physics advisor, who can help you design a plan of study that suits your interests.

Where can I find out more?

The department website contains extensive information of interest to students considering majoring or minoring in Physics, including requirements for Physics Majors and Minors, suggested 4-year curricula for the B.A. and B.S. degrees in Physics, and information about our Scholarship Program:

<https://www.as.uky.edu/current-physics-majors>

You are also invited to contact Prof. Ron Wilhelm directly if you would like to learn more about any aspect of the undergraduate physics programs at UK.

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